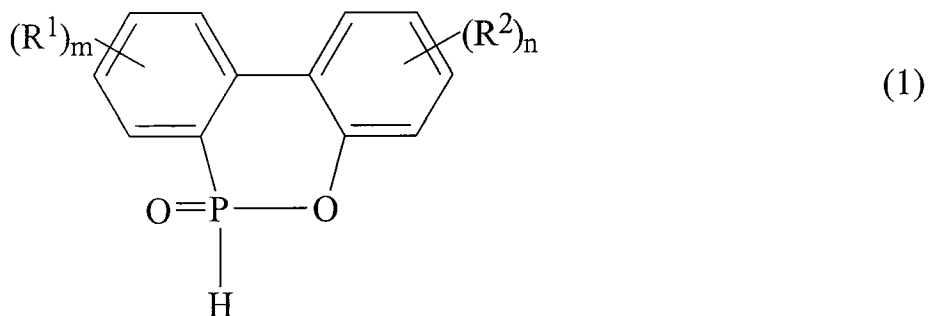
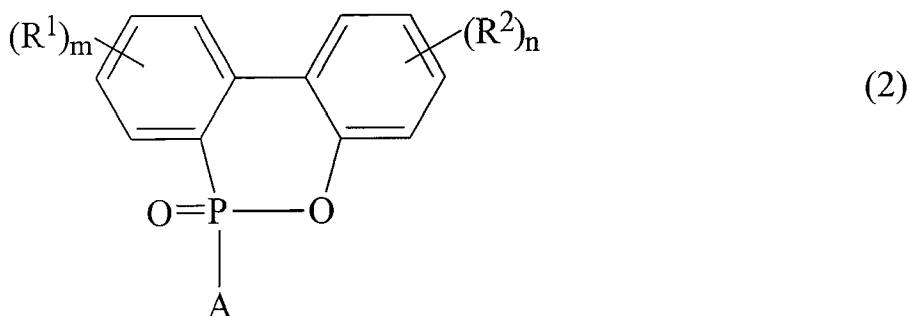


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A thermoplastic resin composition for masterbatches, comprising:
an organophosphorus compound represented by General Formula (1):



wherein R¹ and R² each represent an organic group or a halogen atom, and m and n each represent an integer of 0 to 4, and when m or n is an integer of 2 to 4, R¹ and R² may be the same or different, and/or an organophosphorus compound represented by General Formula (2):



wherein R¹ and R² each represent an organic group or a halogen atom, and m and n each represent an integer of 0 to 4, and when m or n is an integer of 2 to 4, R¹ and R² may be the same or different, and A represents an organic group that is the same as or different from R¹ and R²;
and

a thermoplastic resin, wherein

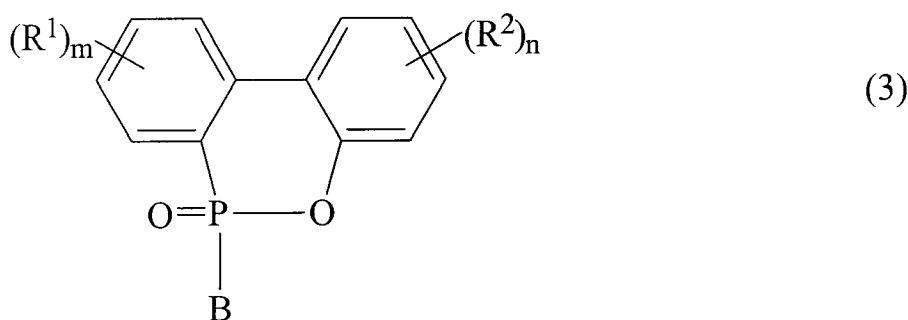
the thermoplastic resin composition for masterbatches contains a phosphorus content of 5000 ppm or more, and

the thermoplastic resin is a polyester resin, and said polyester resin contains at least one polymerization catalyst used for said polyester resin selected from the group consisting of an aluminum compound and a germanium compound.

2. (Original) The thermoplastic resin composition for masterbatches according to Claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic resin composition for masterbatches contains a bivalent metal compound such that the content of the bivalent metal is from 1 ppm to 250 ppm based on the amount of the organophosphorus compound represented by General Formula (1) and/or the organophosphorus compound represented by General Formula (2).

3. (Currently Amended) A thermoplastic resin composition for masterbatches, comprising:

a thermoplastic resin in which an organophosphorus compound represented by General Formula (3):



wherein R^1 and R^2 each represent an organic group or a halogen atom, and m and n each represent an integer of 0 to 4, and when m or n is an integer of 2 to 4, R^1 and R^2 may be the same or different, and B represents an organic group having a functional group, is incorporated as a constituent, wherein

the thermoplastic resin composition for masterbatches contains a phosphorus content of 5000 ppm or more, and

the thermoplastic resin is a polyester resin, and said polyester resin contains at least one polymerization catalyst used for said polyester resin selected from the group consisting of an aluminum compound and a germanium compound.

4. (Original) The thermoplastic resin composition for masterbatches according to Claim 3, wherein the thermoplastic resin composition for masterbatches contains a bivalent metal compound such that the content of the bivalent metal is from 1 ppm to 250 ppm based on the amount of the organophosphorus compound represented by General Formula (3).

5. (Original) The thermoplastic resin composition for masterbatches according to Claim 2 or 4, wherein the bivalent metal is zinc.
6. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic resin composition for masterbatches according to Claim 1 or 3, wherein the organophosphorus compound forms a fine powder with a bulk density of 2 cm³/g or less.
7. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic resin composition for masterbatches according to Claim 1 or 3, wherein the thermoplastic resin is a polyester resin.
8. (Currently Amended) The thermoplastic resin composition for masterbatches according to Claim 1 or 3 [[7]] , wherein the polyester resin is at least one selected from polyethylene terephthalate, polybutylene terephthalate, polytrimethylene terephthalate, and polylactic acid.
9. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic resin composition for masterbatches according to Claim 7, wherein a germanium compound is used as a polymerization catalyst in production of the polyester resin.
10. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic resin composition for masterbatches according to Claim 1 or 3, further comprising a weather-resistance-imparting agent.
11. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic resin composition for masterbatches according to Claim 1 or 3, wherein the weather-resistance-imparting agent is at least one compound selected from hindered amine compounds, nitrogen-containing hindered phenolic compounds, metal salt hindered phenolic compounds, phenolic compounds, hindered phenolic compounds, and sulfur compounds.
12. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic resin composition for masterbatches according to Claim 1 or 3, wherein the thermoplastic resin composition for masterbatches has an L value (whiteness) of 25 or more, where the L value is measured with a Hunter color-difference

meter.

13-21. (Cancelled).

22. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic resin composition for masterbatches according to Claim 1, 3, 13 or 14, wherein the thermoplastic resin composition for masterbatches has a melt viscosity of 2000 to 5000 centipoise at 275°C.

23. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic resin composition for masterbatches according to Claim 1, 3, 13 or 14, wherein the thermoplastic resin composition for masterbatches is in the form of chips with a height of at 1 mm or more, a width of 1 mm or more and a length of 1 mm or more.

24. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a molding material in the form of chips, comprising:

discharging, from a spinneret, the thermoplastic resin composition for masterbatches according to Claim 1, 3, 13 or 14 to form a rod-shaped molten polymer;
solidifying the rod-shaped molten polymer with ~~cooling~~ cooling water; and
then cutting the solidified polymer.

25. (Original) The method according to Claim 24, further comprising cooling, with air for 0.1 to 0.6 seconds, the rod-shaped molten polymer discharged from the spinneret before solidifying it with cooling water.

26. (Previously Presented) A thermoplastic resin composition, comprising:
0.5 to 90% by weight of the thermoplastic resin composition for masterbatches according to Claim 1, 3, 13 or 14; and
a thermoplastic resin whose type is the same as or different from the type of the thermoplastic resin used in the thermoplastic resin composition for masterbatches.

27. (Previously Presented) A method of producing a thermoplastic resin composition,

comprising mixing 0.5 to 90% by weight of the thermoplastic resin composition for masterbatches according to Claim 1, 3, 13 or 14 with a thermoplastic resin whose type is the same as or different from the type of the thermoplastic resin used in the thermoplastic resin composition for masterbatches.